

Summary Sheet

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting

Council – 28 February 2018

Report Title

Response to Recommendations from Improving Places Select Commission –
Emergency Planning

Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?

Yes

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report

Damien Wilson, Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment

Report Author(s)

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Ward(s) Affected

All

Summary

The Improving Places Select Commission established a Task and Finish Group to undertake a review of Emergency Planning in 2016. The group completed its review in the autumn of 2017 and submitted a final report to Council on 18 October 2017.

Under the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, the Cabinet is required to respond to any recommendations made by scrutiny and the response was agreed by Cabinet on 19 February 2018. This report is submitted to ensure that all Members are aware of the proposed implementation of agreed recommendations arising from the scrutiny review.

Recommendations

1. That the response to the recommendations of the Improving Places Select Commission scrutiny review of Emergency Planning (as set out in Appendix A) be noted.
2. That the response be referred to the next meeting of the Improving Places Select Commission on 14 March 2018.

List of Appendices Included

Appendix A - Cabinet's Response to Scrutiny Review of Emergency Planning

Background Papers

None

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

Council – 28 February 2018

Improving Places Select Commission – 14 March 2018

Council Approval Required

No

Exempt from the Press and Public

No

Response to Recommendations from Improving Places Select Commission – Emergency Planning

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 That the response to the recommendations of the Improving Places Select Commission scrutiny review of Emergency Planning (as set out in Appendix A) be noted.
- 1.2 That the response be referred to the next meeting of the Improving Places Select Commission on 14 March 2018.

2. Background

- 2.1 A Task and Finish Group was established by Members of the Improving Places Select Commission to carry out the review, which was undertaken by interviewing relevant Members and officers from the Council, along with a fact finding visit to Stockton-on-Tees to learn how their Emergency Planning Service was provided in the Tees Valley. This area was chosen as it is an area with four unitary authorities (similar to South Yorkshire) however, they deliver emergency planning collectively.
- 2.2 The legal context governing the provision of the Emergency Plan was covered in the review report, together with basic details covering the Joint Service Agreement which exists between Rotherham and Sheffield Councils to provide the Emergency Plan. Running in parallel to the review was a refresh of the Emergency Plan, which has been renamed the Major Incident Plan.
- 2.3 The review report was submitted to Council on 18 October 2017, which represented the formal publication of the report. In accordance with the Council's constitution, the Cabinet is required to consider and respond to any recommendations made by a scrutiny committee. At its meeting on 19 February 2018, the Cabinet agreed the response to the Improving Places Select Commission.
- 2.4 This report is submitted to ensure that all Members are aware of the proposed implementation of agreed recommendations arising from the scrutiny review.

3. Key Issues

- 3.1 There are fifteen recommendations arising from the scrutiny review of Emergency Planning, these are detailed in Appendix A. The schedule provides detail in respect of whether the recommendations should be agreed, not agreed or deferred and the action being taken.

4. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 4.1 To consider the recommendations of the Improving Places Select Commission Task and Finnish Group as per the attached schedule (Appendix A).

5. Consultation

- 5.1 There has been no further consultation on this report beyond the mandatory Cabinet report processes, alongside consultation with the Cabinet member.

6. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

- 6.1 The timetable for implementing the recommended actions is set out in the attached schedule (Appendix A).

7. Financial and Procurement Implications

- 7.1 There are no additional budgetary implications arising from this report. There is provision within the existing service revenue budget for the cost of the rolling training programme.

8. Legal Implications

- 8.1 The work referred to in this report should continue to strengthen the Council's compliance with its statutory duties under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004. Under that legislation, local authorities are designated as a Category 1 responder with a series of duties including a duty to assess the risk of an emergency occurring, to maintain plans for the purposes of responding to an emergency and to maintain arrangements to warn, inform, and advice members of the public in the event of an emergency.

9. Human Resources Implications

- 9.1 Officers are working in conjunction with Human Resources to recruit and retain appropriate levels of volunteers to assist during any major incidents.

10. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

- 10.1 There are no direct implications for children and young people or vulnerable adults arising from this report.

11. Equalities and Human Rights Implications

- 11.1 There are no direct equalities or human rights implications arising from this report.

12. Implications for Partners and Other Directorates

- 12.1 The Major Incident Plan involves and impacts all directorates within the Council. Roles and responsibilities for key personnel are clearly defined within the Major Incident Plan.

13. Risks and Mitigation

- 13.1 There are no additional risks presented by the recommendations at this stage. Mitigation in relation to any risk to be brought about by lack of action in response to recommendations will be addressed through robust monitoring of delivery of the arising actions alongside the bi-annual reviews by Improving Places Select Commission.

14. Accountable Officer(s)

Damien Wilson, Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment
Sam Barstow, Head of Service, Community Safety, Resilience & Emergency Planning

Approvals obtained on behalf of:-

	Named Officer	Date
Strategic Director of Finance & Customer Services	Judith Badger	01.02.2018
Assistant Director of Legal Services	Dermot Pearson	31.01.2018
Head of Procurement (if appropriate)	N/A	
Head of Human Resources (if appropriate)	N/A	

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